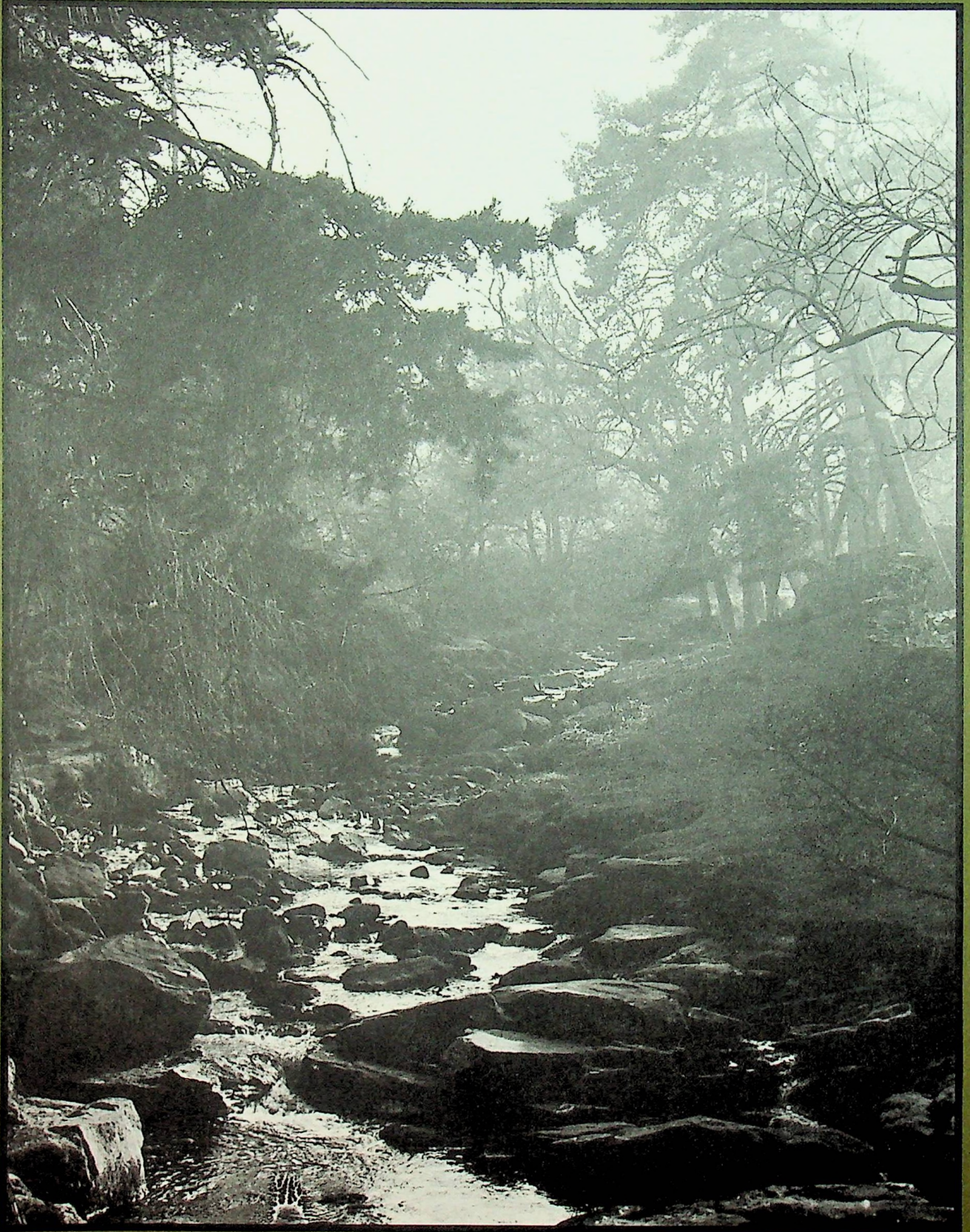


POINT THREE



The TocH magazine October 1977 10p



POINT THREE

Editor : Frank Rice MA MA MBIM
Designer : Michael F Hill MSTD

Letters and articles are welcomed and should be addressed to the Toc H Editorial Office, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks HP22 6BT (Telephone: 0296 623911). Opinions expressed (including the editorial) are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Toc H Movement.

Point Three is available from the Toc H Publications Department, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks HP22 6BT (Telephone: 0296 623911). Single copies 10p; 10 or more copies sent to one address 9p each. Annual subscription: £1.20 including postage.

*'Yet feels, as in a pensive dream,
When all his active powers are still,
A distant dearness in the hill,
A secret sweetness in the stream.'*

(Tennyson's *In Memoriam*)

This picture was taken near Colsterdale (see centre pages)



Toc H seeks to create friendship and understanding among people of all backgrounds and beliefs. Local group activities range from holidays for the handicapped and children's playschemes to arts festivals and even bird-watching. Toc H is short for Talbot House: the soldiers' club in Belgium founded by the Reverend 'Tubby' Clayton in 1915. Today Toc H provides opportunities for people to test the relevance of practical Christianity and we welcome anyone who would like to give us a try.

VIEWPOINT

George Orwell once said that we start by corrupting our vocabulary and end by corrupting ourselves.

I wonder what Orwell would say today of the double talk that rolls over us without cease? Some of it is used deliberately (for political or other motives) in order to confuse us; some of it is jargon — an invented sectional vocabulary designed to show that the writer or speaker is a member of a special group; some is the lazy use of 'label words' to save the trouble of thinking. Whatever the motive, the result is confusion. Thus we hear totalitarian regimes called 'democratic republics', thefts by staff disguised as 'stock shrinkage' and attempts by police to enforce the law labelled 'provocation'. For many different reasons, words which once had fairly exact meanings — 'fascist', 'racialist', 'progressive', 'Trotskyist', 'Tory', 'Christian', etc — have become jargon labels which make it easy for us to talk without bothering to think.

I am suspicious of the mere sight or sound of any of these words. Until we get back to using plain language, we shall not really be talking to each other at all. The whole purpose of language is to enable us to communicate ideas. To say that we have put forward valuable ideas but most people can't understand them is as silly as claiming that we have cooked a nourishing meal but unfortunately no-one can eat it.

These thoughts started up when I was thinking recently about the comprehensive school debate which somehow succeeds in being violent and dreary at the same time. There are respectable philosophical and practical arguments for and against the comprehensive school but we rarely hear them for the shouting. The moment someone suggests that this type of secondary school organisation may not be the final answer to all our educational and social problems, his voice is drowned by cries of 'selection' and 'elitism' — both favourite label words.

My dictionary defines 'elite' as the pick or flower of anything. Christian, Marxist and humanist would all agree that life demands from each of us the best he can give. We are all different and, whatever aspect of life we look at, we see that some of us are better at it than others. This is a fact, not a socially unjust value judgment. If I say that one man is a

better singer than another or not so good an athlete or mathematician, I am not implying that either is the better man. Why then is it wrong to try to do what the Russians, for example, try to do, ie to ensure that the elite mathematicians, engineers or ballet dancers have every chance at school to develop their differences to the full? This can be done in some kinds of comprehensive school but, of course, it means 'selection'. It can be argued that one test of a good school is how far it develops its various elites. I fail to see that doing so necessarily means judging the value to society of one man or the other, still less that it means trying to take away any of his worth and dignity as a son of God.

I shall be delighted if you write to me to disagree with what I say; I shall be depressed if I have failed to make my meaning clear. I am inviting you to join me in suspecting all those who 'blind us with science' or just shout slogans at us.

In his book 'Humour in the Civil Service', John Aye quotes a 17th century Secretary to the Commissioners of Excise writing to the Pontefract Supervisor. He said: 'The Commissioners on perusal of your Diary observe that you make use of many affected phrases and incongruous words . . . , all of which you use in a sense that the words do not bear. I am ordered to acquaint you that if you hereafter continue that affected and schoolboy way of writing, and to murder the language in such a manner, you will be discharged for a fool'.

Very well said!

FGR

EDITORIAL NOTE

I want to apologise to all readers and particularly to the staff and boys of HM Borstal, Hatfield for an error in our August issue. In the caption to one of the pictures on p11, we included among the work done by Stokenheath boys the building of the dining room furniture and the lounge window seat. In fact, this was part of the excellent work carried out by boys from Hatfield. Mea maxima culpa!

Members accept a four-fold commitment:

1. To build friendships across the barriers that divide man from man.
2. To give personal service.
3. To find their own convictions while always being willing to listen to the views of others.

4. To work for the building of that better world which has been called the Kingdom of God.

This magazine, which acts as a forum for ideas about Toc H and about the world in which we live, takes its title from the third of these Four Points — to think fairly.

POINT THREE SALES

Following the June 'Viewpoint' about the rising costs of *Point Three* — in particular the cost of postage — two readers have sent in a valuable suggestion. They have offered to receive in bulk all the *Point Threes* for their local areas and distribute them by hand. If we could get a lot more offers of this kind, it would help us enormously in our efforts to cut down costs.

Another splendid offer has come from Aquarius (Warrington) Youth Action Group. The group is taking 100 of each issue to sell locally as they go around on their Toc H business.

Please, ANY MORE OFFERS?

PLEASE NOTE

John Hull, our Chaplain, urges us all to share in the Week of Prayer for World Peace from 23 to 30 October. Taking part will identify us actively with the work of our Churches and may well be the most positive contribution to world peace we can make.

Details from Regional Staff or your own Church.

WORLD CHAIN OF LIGHT

The 1977 Vigil from 9 pm on Sunday 11 December to 9 pm on Monday 12 December will be kept at the Birmingham Centre. UK branches west of Birmingham and those in the Americas should join the Chain on 11 December. Those in the UK east of Birmingham and those in New Zealand, and westwards back to Europe should join on 12 December.



Ken Prideaux-Brune



Toc H is associated with an important new Church of England initiative in the training of men for the Ministry. A number of people, including John Hull, have been very concerned about the closure, on financial grounds, of the two colleges which offered courses for men who lacked the necessary educational qualifications for entry to a theological college. They put forward proposals to ensure that it remained possible for such men to train for ordination and these proposals have been officially adopted by the Church as the Aston Training Scheme. A pilot scheme, involving 20 men, has started this autumn.

They will continue in their normal jobs undertaking a special course of study in their spare time under the supervision of selected local clergy. At a later stage it is intended that the scheme should include a residential element, with small groups living and studying in rectories and seeing at first hand something of what the life of a priest involves.

Both the Tubby Clayton Memorial Fund and the Toc H and All Hallows Trust have promised substantial grants to this new scheme. Between them they will enable 14 of the 20 students to buy the

books they will need for their studies. It is hard to imagine anything that would be closer to Tubby's heart. He always took particular pride in the number of men who, through Toc H, have been enabled to discover their vocation to the Ministry.

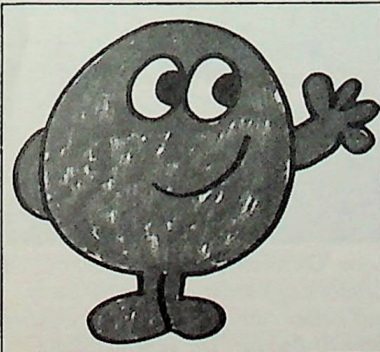
The 'Be a Good Neighbour' campaign launched by the Department of Health and Social Security last winter is to be continued on a more permanent basis. Initially the campaign stressed the needs of the elderly and the handicapped but it will now be on a much broader basis. It will attempt to 'indicate the kind of practical, and perhaps limited, tasks which need to be undertaken' and it will 'continue to affirm that most people have a capacity to help' and that good neighbourliness is 'a process which involves offering and receiving'.

The main objective of the campaign, then, is 'to encourage spontaneous and informal good neighbourliness'. We will obviously, therefore, want to give it full support and we may also find its publicity material helpful in our own extension efforts.

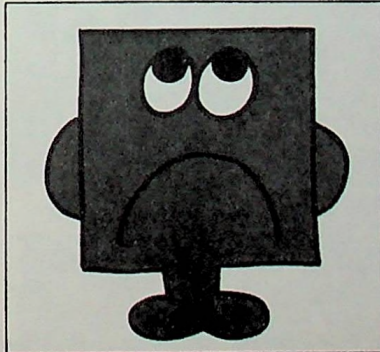
The news recently seems to me to have been more than usually depressing (though I'm writing this just before going on holiday — maybe I'll feel more cheerful on my return!). I am depressed by President Carter's decision, despite all his talk about human rights and the need for a moral dimension in foreign policy, to give the go ahead to the neutron bomb. This weapon, which apparently kills people but leaves property unscathed, sounds like the Devil's ultimate joke. And, by blurring the distinction between nuclear and so-called 'conventional' weapons, it makes the pressing of the button more likely.

What depresses me more than the decision, however, is the lack of protest which has greeted it. Have we become so anaesthetised that we are no longer capable of feeling horror? Or is the silence due to a numbing sense of helplessness at the ordinary person's total inability to influence decisions of this kind? In the far off, innocent days when CND flourished, there were still those who believed that if enough people felt strongly enough about an issue the course of history could be changed. Bitter experience has destroyed that optimism. It begins almost to look as though those who believed in predestination were right after all.

ROUNDIES AND SQUARIES



Roundies understand Squaries.



Squaries don't even understand other Squaries.

NEWSPOINT

Photo: Bucks Herald



'Pearlies' helped to raise over £170 for Aylesbury Toc H Group at their summer exhibition in Aylesbury town centre. The picture shows (L to R) Geoff and Len Shepherd, Pearly Prince and King of Oxford (Len is also Wantage Toc H Chairman), Bill West, Chelsea's Pearly Prince, Sarah, daughter of group members Bob and Georgie Starling, and Huw Gibbs, group secretary.

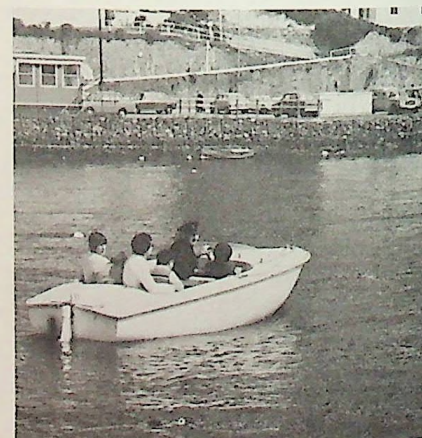
Photo: Oldham Evening Chronicle



Guardsmen, cheering crowds, waving banners and royal crowns were all vividly portrayed in words, paintings and models for the fourth annual Art and Literature Competition organised by Oldham Branch for children aged 4 - 16. This year's theme was 'Jubilee'. Over 40 schools in the borough submitted entries which were judged by the staff of the Central Library & Art Gallery. Prizes were presented by the Mayor, Councillor E Lord and the Carnival Queen, Miss Jackie Harrop. The photograph shows (with the Mayor and the Carnival Queen) (L to R) Robert Jones, Iain Cash, Duncan Wilson, Beverley Taylor and Mohiniben Mistry.



Aquarius (NE Warrington) is the newest and fastest growing Toc H Youth Action Group. Besides running a regular disco for the mentally handicapped, they are currently helping Point Three sales (see In Brief) and are heavily involved with the lively 'Youth Action North East Warrington'. They enrolled 12 new members last month alone! The picture shows part of the group on a recent visit to Port Penrhyn.



Looe, Cornwall, Branch, as part of their Jubilee celebrations, gave a tea party and a river trip to handicapped children from St Blazey. The general public rallied round, providing boats free of charge and goodies for the party.

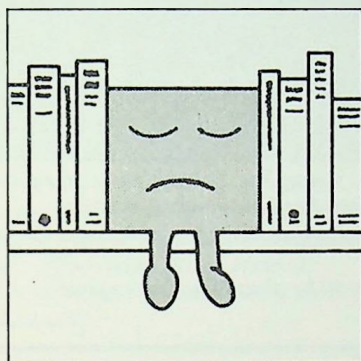
I'M A SQUARE!

Your cartoons of Roundies and Squaries can be offensive to such a Squary (or maybe Rectangly) as myself.

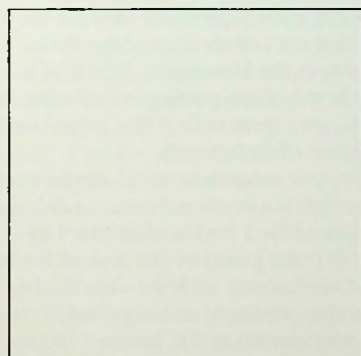
I would point out that Roundies are liable to run downhill: Squaries are more stable and reliable. Any edifice built with Roundies will need much more cement than that built with Squaries. Let Toc H beware!

Charles Potts
Lyminster, Hants

Keith Rea, *Toc H Commissioner BAOR*, has been inspired by Roger Hargreaves' brilliant *Roundy and Squary* cartoons to send us this ingenious 'dodecagonal' on the same theme!



Squaries retire gracefully onto bookshelves.



Roundies vanish into holes in the ground.

Amen.

The genuine Roundy and Squary are on page three of this issue.

No, this is not Petticoat Lane but Weymouth Esplanade! Weymouth, Dorset, Women's Branch raised more than £100 for the Family Purse. They sold almost anything, including a coat removed by a passer by overcome by the excitement and heat of the day!

Through the open window

by Guy Brinkworth SJ



A WITNESS OF TRUST

Through the first floor window overlooking the garden passes gracefully to and fro my handsome Siamese cat — called Mazda because he was a present from some nurses of an association for volunteer lay missionaries entitled 'Lampades Christi' — 'torches of Christ'. He has his own ladder down to the ground which he negotiates with consummate feline skill and aplomb.

So each day it is the exquisite elegance of his poise and movement, the economic precision of his leap which fills my heart unfailingly with its 'Te Deum laudamus'.

'What immortal hand or eye, could frame thy fearful symmetry?'

But through that open window comes with him an even profounder message from our mutual Maker: one that has taken me, perhaps, some years to assimilate. By the nature of his kind, so sensitive and highly strung, I continually marvel at the utter trust and confidence he witnesses in the company and presence of his chosen master. Here in my room he visibly and palpably *relaxes* in a patent sense of security and peace. Cynics may say that it is all attributable to the hand that feeds him. But I have gradually discovered that there is a great deal more in it than that. There is present an inbuilt social trait, bias, instinct: call it what you

will — but it is God given. A tendency to attach himself not only to a cosy place — but to a *person* he trusts and loves.

Thus does Mazda give glory to his Maker who said we must learn from even the humblest flowers. In his lovely but beautiful way he is an apostle, a prophet. In the course of years he has patiently taught me a profound lesson, the secret of prayer. I, in turn, have learnt to *relax* in the effort to *trust* in the Presence of my Master Who daily feeds me with the Bread of Angels... It will become for us the Bread of Life. He has helped me to strive to develop the inherent but too often distracted and suppressed urge to seek the company and protecting presence of my Divine Master. To relax, be at peace, content in that Divine and glorified Human Presence. 'Magister adest!' 'Our hearts were made for Thee, O Master, and will never find their rest except in Thee!'

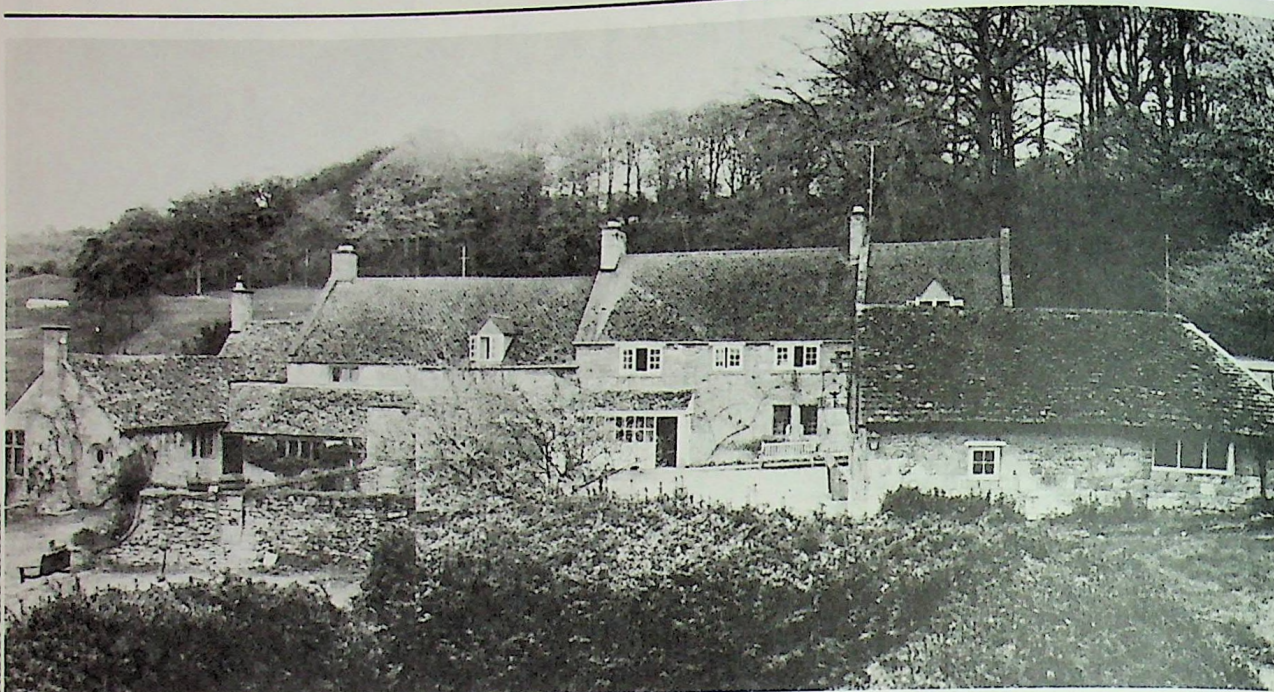
Meanwhile, impelled perhaps by that mysterious ESP which the loving Creator seems to have bestowed on so many of His creatures, a small blue grey masked face appears, blue eyes glowing bright red with his assiduous message. Quietly I sigh with the Psalmist: 'Beneath your wing, my refuge, my fortress, my Master in *Whom I trust*.' And Mazda gently and gracefully jumps in through my window.



Photo: Photomasters, Weymouth

NEWSPOINT

Photo: Bob Braeder



The Friends of Dor Knap have been going for ten years and have spent a total of £2,704. Of this £1,841 has been spent on actual gifts and equipment for the house including such things as the central heating, a deep freeze, cooker, washing machine, etc. This money has come from the subscriptions, donations and gifts from staunch supporters over the years. The 'Friends' now appeal to us all, to give to make the future brighter, and to give support for extra amenities for Dor Knap. For branch membership a minimum of £2 is suggested, for individual membership 50p, for family membership £1 or for life membership £7.50, but donations of any size are acceptable.

Frank Kirk, 153 Welbeck Road, Long Eaton, Nottingham, NG10 4GR, the Secretary, will be pleased to receive your donations and subscriptions.

WHAT IS TOC H?

Arthur Noble

Arthur has been an active Toc H member for almost 50 years and our cashier at HQ since 1965. As part of the current re-organisation, he will leave us on retirement at the end of October. Arthur came to the staff after working in commerce, insurance and industry — all in Halifax. During the war, he became the town's chief warden. After the war, he was secretary and chairman of an old people's trust and secretary and agent for the Halifax Liberal Party. His concern for the old and the helpless dates from his early tours of town slum areas with his midwife mother. Despite his full time job and his regular service for others, he has always found time for his church work (for some years particularly associated with All Hallows) and his music. He ran the All

Hallows Music Club for six years from its inception. Music means much to Arthur — he knows it as part of the language in which God speaks to man. Within HQ and widely around the Movement, we shall miss Arthur's warmth, humour and sturdy good sense. Fortunately, he plans to stay in the Wendover area.

I first met Toc H in 1928 in Bingley and its appeal to me was two fold. Firstly I enjoyed the social service that we carried out in Bradford, and secondly my father, who was killed in the First World War, is buried at the end of what is now Toc H Straate in Poperinge. A strange mixture of reasons but they encouraged me to join the new East Bradford Group. The spiritual link which I only faintly understood was confirmed in 1933 on a cycle visit to Poperinge. Here I met Gilbert Williams, who was leading a party at the Old House. He took prayers in the Upper Room and I felt there that spiritual sense of awareness of His presence.

In 1928 it seemed reasonable to me that Toc H was for men only, as most of the hideousness and suffering in the trenches was borne by men, and it was this suffering that caused men to seek for another world of the spirit away from the inhumanity of war. I know now that

women should have been brought in as full partners in Toc H. They have always been our main supporters, they are the practical sex and their numbers are increasing in the Movement. Those of us who have had the privilege of meeting and listening to them at Central Council have no doubt of their worth.

Our concern in social service work for people is a small and tenuous link with the love of God for His children. I believe that the power of His love within us can communicate with the sick, the lonely, the under privileged and deprived. It is a two way contact and is personal to each one of us. I have always liked working with and for older people, and now that I am one of them I can understand much of their loneliness, especially through the loss of dear ones or friends and neighbours over many years.

On reflection, the youth of yesterday and the youth of today have much in common. Service to others was then limited to within a few miles of home, whereas today distance is not of great consequence. There is a wider vision of the problems today but 50 years ago poverty was the underlying and all pervading worry of the masses.

I believe that this marvellous universe is the result of a tremendous de-

OBITUARY



This picture, taken at the Dor Knap International Weekend, shows (L to R) Angela Leng (Argentine), Mike Giddings (just off to India), Robb Mascetti (Rhodesia) and (behind) Betty Knowles (Australia).

sign and that man is the culmination of that design, and his spiritual qualities, the love of beauty, of truth and goodness, his ability to apprehend and love God, are the crown of that design. I cannot believe that this tremendous design will have been in vain, and that nothing will be left behind. I believe that the best in us lives on and that in some unfathomable way we shall live on and be reunited, in Christ, with those whom we have loved and lost awhile. Man is now realising that the resources of this world are limited, that the great technological revolution which has altered our way of life has not cured the world of the hungry, the destitute, or the downtrodden, but has made the rich countries more powerful, and the poorer under the control of oppressive regimes.

There are signs of a stirring of the Spirit, that we are again living at the start of a renaissance, a spiritual one, where a new understanding of God's love, a seeking of the truth is being revealed to all people of like mind. We shall experience again much of the trauma of re-awakening, but this microcosm of the universe we call Toc H will have its full part to play in this awakening. It may not be today, but it will most certainly be tomorrow, and we know that tomorrow is in God's hand.

We regret to announce the death of the following members:

In April: Aprilla Griffiths (Pwllheli)
In May: Vernon G Best (Leicester District), Robert Brown (Ryton), Irene Luscott (Leeds), Dennis N Smith (St Just), William Threlfall (Cromer)
In June: Edgar F Cox (Shoreham), Walter R Cuff (Wimborne), Samuel Davies (Llandrindod Wells), George Halliburton (Jedburgh), R Jackson Kirby (Scarborough), Rev Rowland Motson-Thompson (Ramsgate & Newington), Thomas Owen (Bangor), Henry A Reeve (Honiton), George A Tilling (Newbury), Lt Col Edward D Tims (Central Overseas), Elsie L Watkins (East Barnett), Francis Wright (Honiton)
In July: Frederick A Cook (Hitchin), S Reg Davies (Oswestry), John C Lampert (Treforest), Rev Harold Lethbridge (Heathfield), Elizabeth E Morris (Pwllheli), James B Park (Wortley de Leeds), John Stanford (Buckingham), William Eric Stott (Newsome), Sir Colin N Thornton-Kemsley, CBE (Highland District)

In August: Chas A Caley (Lincs & South Humberside District), Laurie W Featherstone (Scarborough), H Frederick Linnett (Highams Park), Ronald S Symons (South-down District)

Robert Brown for the past ten years a member of Ryton-on-Tyne Branch, died on 29 May at the age of 84. Bob gave the Movement many years of devoted Christian service in different parts of the NE Region. He was an eager and active branch member to the end and left a lasting impression on all who knew him.

Francis Wright, Honiton (Devon) Men's Branch, died on 23 June. He knew the Old House during the First World War and joined the Movement at Bexleyheath in 1935. In his later years, he was forced to cut down on his many activities but he remained a frequent visitor to the Honiton branches almost to the end.

We give thanks for their lives.

RONALD STUART SYMONS CMG, CIE



Ronnie Symons died suddenly at his home in Sussex on 5 August. He was aged 73. We pass our deepest sympathy to his widow and to their son and daughter at this sad time. **John Callf**, who knew Ronnie well for many years, writes:

'In his years of retirement, nothing gave more pleasure to Sir William Hamilton Fyfe, a famous Headmaster of Christ's Hospital, than to talk about the contribution to the leadership of Toc H made by so many Old Blues. One who gave him special pride was Ronnie Symons.

After coming under Tubby's spell at school, Ronnie joined Toc H at Cambridge in the 1920s, and when he joined the Indian Civil Service he threw his lot in with Toc H branches wherever he happened to be in India. Alan Cowling came out there in the middle of the last war to lay the foundations of the Toc H War Services network in India and SEAC,

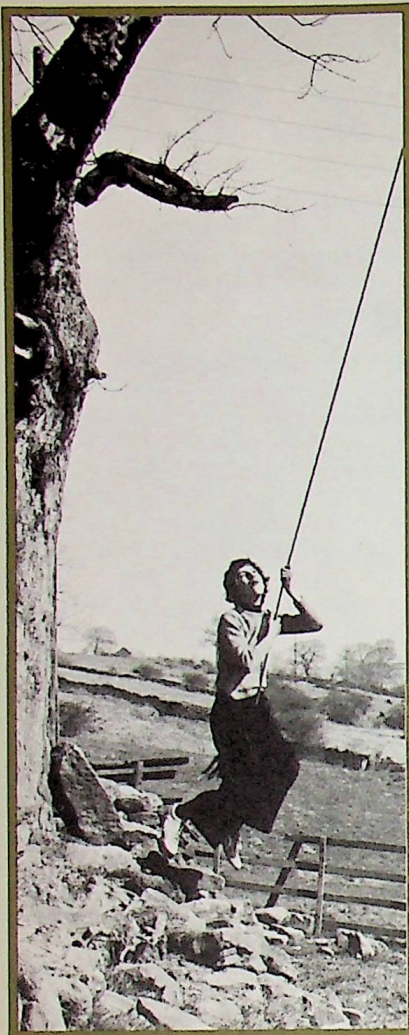
and it was Ronnie, then in the Finance Branch in Delhi, who opened many doors and so made progress possible. Spry, charming and enthusiastic, he was a great ambassador for our work.

After Independence in 1947, he returned to England and became an Assistant Secretary at the Treasury, whereupon Toc H gladly brought him on to the Central Executive, the Central Finance Committee and the Services Team. He was an obvious choice to chair the 1954 Forward Committee examining the tasks ahead of the Movement.

His profession trained him in the arts of committee work, and almost automatically he became the Chairman of the Central Executive in 1956. Concise, precise, he could cut down any of us (even Tubby!) if in our enthusiasm we overran our time, and he did it so neatly. Never was his chairmanship more skilful than at times of decision such as the setting up of Dor Knap and the move of Headquarters from 47 Francis Street to 15 Trinity Square. Ronnie was a founder of the Bordon Company, firmly convinced that Toc H was 'God's show', sustainable only by prayer.

Transferred in 1961 to a financial post with the Diplomatic Corps in Paris, Ronnie was forced to give up his chairmanship of the Central Executive — a sad blow for us all. When he came back to England to live in Sussex and to take up a semi-retirement job in the Treasury, he maintained his love for Toc H and renewed all his old friendships.'

a house for



It's not quite hang gliding but it still feels good!

Houses, like people, often assume a character and appearance in keeping with their environment, and so it is with the Colsterdale Centre high up in the Yorkshire Pennines. You have to be tough to survive in these parts so the house has thick stone walls and a stone slated roof.

Inside, however, it's snug and comfortable though not luxurious. You sleep in bunk beds, and do your own catering and cooking — it's very much a 'do-it-yourself' outdoor activity type of centre. You don't need arctic equipment here, but stout boots and a good mac will come in handy.

These characteristics, and its situation 'far from the madding crowd' make it especially attractive to the young in age and the young in heart. The original concept was that it should be a youth centre and, although in its eight years of existence adult groups have used it extensively, it has in the main met this early objective.

Colsterdale has been very popular as the venue for a wide variety of Toc H projects by branches and Districts either on their own or in co-operation with other organisations such as the Social Services, the NSPCC and the Probation Service. Countless children of all ages, including the physically and mentally handicapped, have benefited from a holiday here, as

also have single parent families, battered wives and mentally handicapped adults. The latest of these projects (August 1977) was organised by Huddersfield District for mentally handicapped children from the Turnshaws Special School, Kirkburton. The purpose was twofold — to give the children a holiday away from home whilst the parents had a holiday at home.

The Probation Service has also made extensive use of the Centre both for problem children and problem families, as a result of which it is recognised by the Home Office as being suitable for the intermediate treatment of young offenders. Probation officers normally see their charges singly and at intervals but at Colsterdale they are able to have a bunch of them together for a week at a time and have found that the experience of living and working together sometimes has a surprising and beneficial effect on their behaviour. One probation officer said that 'some of the longer serving members who have been to Colsterdale several times have begun to adopt a leadership role and have exhibited some of the benefits they have received from the Colsterdale experience'.

Schools from a wide area find Colsterdale an ideal place for extra mural activities and book a number of weeks each year.



There's room at the top! This area offers great views. One occasional young man seriously wonders if it was



'When day is done and shadows fall . . . ' A showy comfortable chair combine to make the day's effort



Photo: Bob Brodier

'... standing at ease in Nature' Toc H guests posing outside the centre against the breathtaking backdrop of the grouse moors.

For all reasons

Dick Stayman

One of them, Richmond in Yorkshire, did its own project with deprived children from the Darlington area.

An innovation this year was a special weekend for naturalists. Members of Toc H joined with members of the Rotherham Naturalist Society in recording and studying flora and fauna of the valley. Botanists, entomologists and ornithologists were all represented and a surprisingly large number of specimens, some of them quite rare, was identified. A similar weekend has already been reserved for 1978.

In cataloguing the Centre's customers one must not forget the ordinary branch members who make a useful number of bookings each year. Many of them, of course, look upon it as their centre as they helped to build it — literally. This sense of ownership continues to take practical form. York ladies, for instance, run a pillow and blanket bank, Rawmarsh ladies have knitted bed covers, while others make regular financial contributions.

Wear and tear on internal fittings and equipment is heavy and annual redecoration is almost a necessity. Fortunately a very useful relationship has been established with the Hatfield Borstal, near Doncaster, where the boys are taught

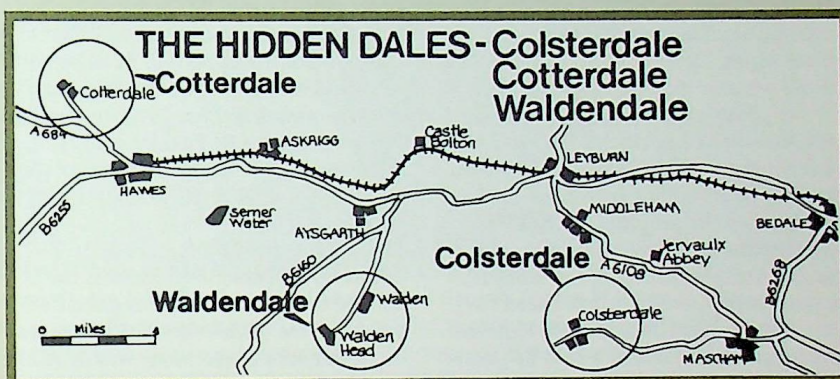
building, decorating and allied trades. They decided several years ago to 'adopt' Colsterdale and have done a wide variety of work there. There is a double benefit from this arrangement. We get a first class job done and the boys, as well as getting a welcome break from camp routine, have the satisfaction of knowing that when they paint a door it will stay painted and will not immediately be burnt off ready for another class to practise on. Places on working parties are therefore coveted privileges. Several of the boys have subsequently become volunteers on Toc H projects.

For a number of years the Centre suffered from the lack of a resident warden but this was rectified from 1976 with the

appointment of Stan Whitehead for the period April to September. His presence has resulted in a marked improvement in the running of the Centre.

Finally, but most importantly, it must be recorded that the Centre is not a charge on central funds. Although letting charges have been held at a moderate level, modest profits have been made in the last few years, and these have either been used to purchase new equipment or are earmarked for future improvements. Economic constraints have had a slight effect on bookings this year, but enquiries from new potential customers continue to come in.

The prospect for the future of this Centre in one of the 'hidden dales' is bright.



rewards to walkers and climbers though the was all worth the effort!



over, a change, drawn curtains, a hot drink and a effort seem enjoyable.



'Variety is the spice of life'. Self catering is part of the fun and parties often show great imagination in preparing meals for the gannets and the calorie counters.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL COMMISSION

by Betty Cornick

Betty Cornick JP has been a Toc H member in Weymouth since early 1945. She is currently a Trustee of Toc H and was until recently chairman of the Central Executive Committee.

For the past year I have been enjoying representing Toc H on the Women's National Commission, in which role Marjorie Berry was my predecessor.

This is proving to be an interesting and worthwhile experience which enables Toc H to contribute to discussions on matters of wide social concern at a level from which the outcome is passed to those those who are shaping future legislation.

The Commission (WNC) replaced the Women's Consultative Council, which was set up in 1962 by the Government, initially to enlighten women on the implications of the proposed entry of this country into the Common Market. After several years' experience, the Women's Consultative Council felt the need for a strengthened and enlarged, Government sponsored body, which would be generally regarded, on behalf of women, as a body to be consulted on matters of public interest. In 1967 the UN Secretary General requested member states to consider setting up national commissions on the status of women, and the Women's Consultative Council recommended its own dissolution and replacement by a Women's National Commission, which would be concerned with all matters of



Photo: Rob Broeder

public interest, including questions specifically affecting women.

Clearly 'all matters of public interest' affect men, women children, the young, the old, the able, the handicapped, and, indeed, all sections of society, so that, as far as Toc H is concerned, members need not feel that their views and interests are represented in a biased way. The WNC is not a 'status of women' organisation: its interests and studies cover the whole spectrum of community life.

The Women's National Commission was set up by the then Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Harold Wilson, in July 1969 as a Government sponsored and financed (but not controlled) body. It automatically went into abeyance after the change of Government in June 1970, but was reconvened by the Rt Hon Edward Heath in November 1970 and has been continued by successive Prime Ministers since then.

Its terms of reference are: 'To ensure by all possible means that the informed opinion of women is given its due weight in the deliberations of Government on both national and international affairs.' Members of the Commission are free to raise matters which they regard as of special or immediate interest, and questions are referred to them by Government Departments and by such bodies as the Law Commission.

The Commission comprises representatives of constituent organisations. These latter to be approved by the Government as coming within the accepted crit-

eria of eligibility, which are, briefly, to have responsible socio-economic or broadly educational aims and activities, to have a sizeable and active membership of women and to have been in existence for at least five years. A constituent organisation may appoint one representative to the Commission and all representative members shall be women. Here is a very brief selection of some of the constituent organisations: Association of Assistant Mistresses, Church Army, Co-operative Women's Guild, League of Jewish Women, Mothers' Union, National Board of Catholic Women, National Free Church Women's Council, National Union of Conservative and Unionist Association, Salvation Army, Toc H, Trades Union Congress, YWCA — surely exactly in line with Toc H's tradition of 'thinking fairly'.

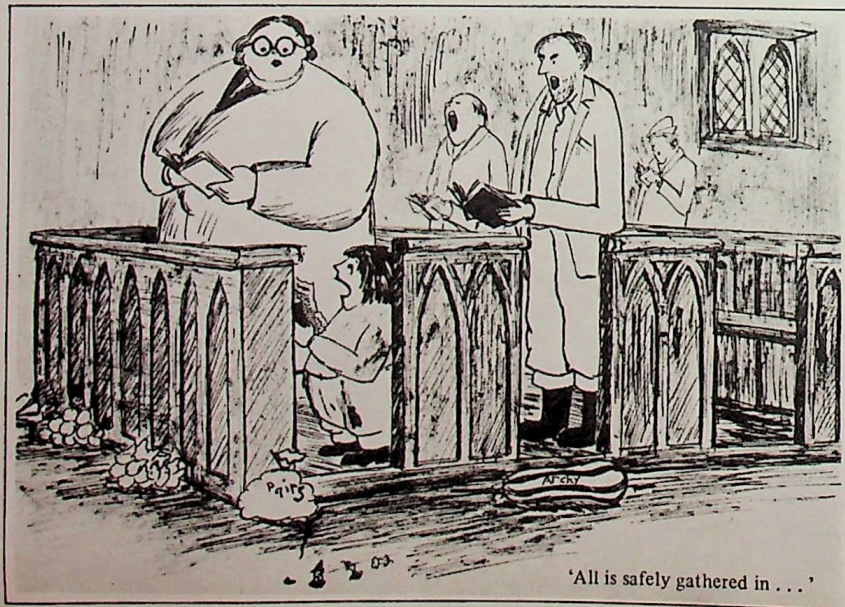
The Commission has two joint chairmen, one appointed by the Government and the other elected by the Commission itself. The Government appointed chairmen have been successively Mrs Judith Hart, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Mrs Barbara Castle and currently Lady Llewelyn-Davies. The present co-Chairman elected by the Commission is Mrs Jane Finlay JP, President of the British Federation of University Women.

It is only possible here to mention a few of the subjects discussed by the Commission, but among them have been: family law reform, evidence to the Finer Committee on One Parent Families, European Common Market, the working of the 1967 Abortion Act, equality of opportunity and anti-discrimination, law of rape, homelessness, Royal Commission on the National Health Service. In connection with this last named, Toc H members in various parts of the country forwarded me their views and suggestions, which I was able to incorporate into a paper to be used by the WNC in the preparation of evidence for submission to the Royal Commission.

In 1975, at the invitation of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the WNC undertook the co-ordination of the UK's activities to mark International Women's Year and has now, also at the request of the FCO, resumed on a permanent basis the wider international role which had been intended when the WNC was first set up.

I hope that the foregoing has given some idea of the breadth and depth of the WNC's discussions and concerns. To be a member of the Commission is, for me, an extremely interesting and rewarding experience, and it is a privilege both to participate in discussions with such capable and well informed women, and to represent Toc H in this wide-ranging field of activity.

Note: In June of this year Jane Finlay completed her tour of office as co-Chairman. The new co-Chairman is Miss Ethel Chipchase MBE who formerly represented the TUC on the Commission.



Peter Brooks

'All is safely gathered in ...'

NEWSPOINT

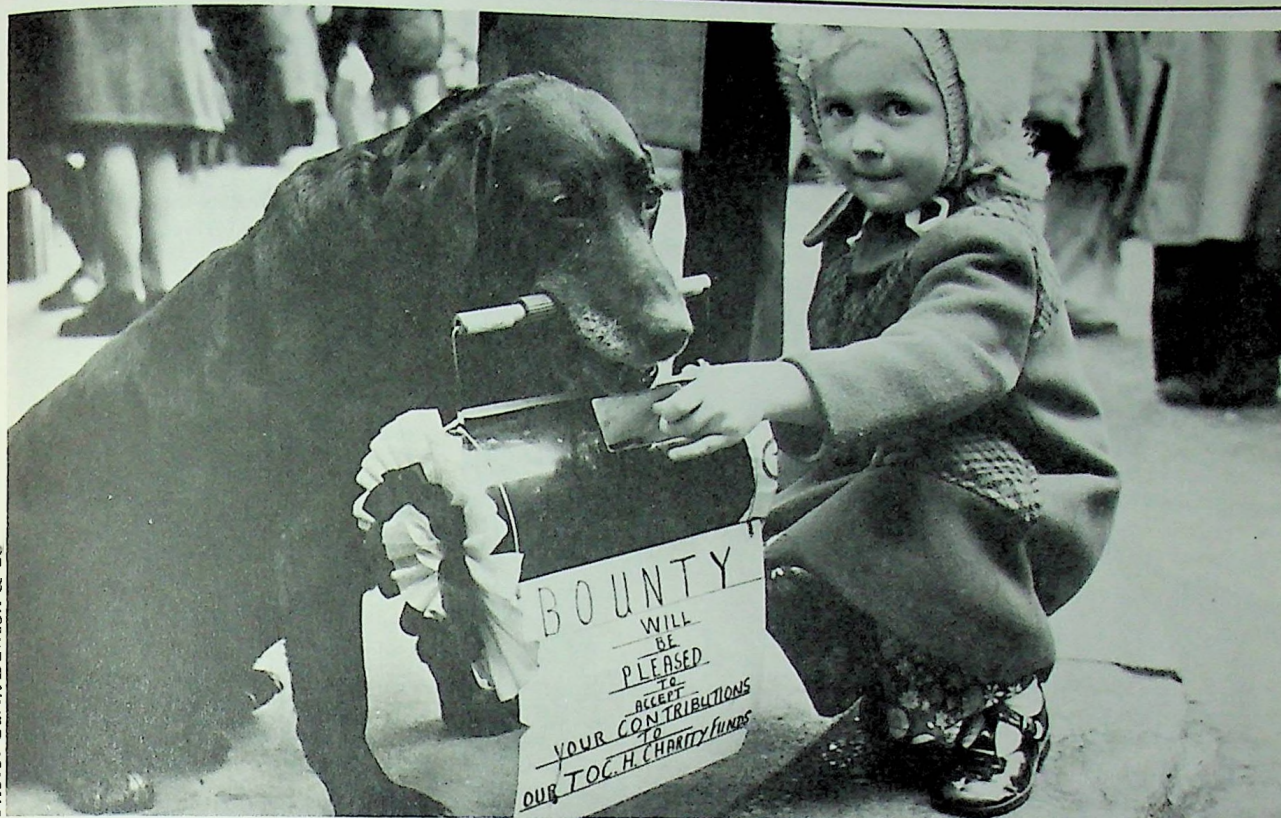


Photo: Garth Dawson & Co

Old timer honorary Clitheroe Toc H member, Bounty the labrador, has raised hundreds of pounds for the Movement. On one recent Saturday appearance in Accrington Market, he collected almost £80 and the weight of coin would have damaged for life anyone less determined! In the picture he is accepting with thanks a donation from five year old Helen Maria Wallbank.

Stirring the Mixture

by Trevor Sizer

The South West held its first Regional project this year when it brought together some two dozen people — mixed 'able bodied' and 'physically handicapped' — at Rolle College, Exmouth. They were all aged between 23 and 35 and shared a number of interests.

The idea for this holiday was sparked off more than a year ago by a letter from a handicapped girl. The Regional Executive took up the idea with enthusiasm and nominations and the necessary funds came in — slowly at first, faster once the idea took hold. Plymouth Friends of the Disabled provided free of charge their specially equipped coach. Rolle College offered the use of one of their residential blocks plus access to their dining hall. The wheels rolled on 29 March from all parts of Avon, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall. Twenty six slightly apprehensive young people sat down to share their first evening meal. The feelings of many of them were summed up by David

Johnson from his wheelchair: 'It is with trepidation that I view holidays arranged for the disabled . . . For me, the holiday doesn't start until I get back home again and swing into the old familiar, comfortable routine . . .' The rest of the week proved him wrong!

The week started with a 'what we hope to do' session and then swung into action. There were daytime visits to a boat building yard, Exeter Cathedral and the Maritime Museum. There was a tour to see the scenery and wild life of Dartmoor. A very full day in South Devon ended with a fascinating tour of Buckfast Abbey conducted by a jovial and well informed 'Brummie' brother. The RSPB's regional officer gave us an evening slide programme of the local bird life. The Budleigh Salterton Action Plus Group laid on a games evening and 'sausage sizzle'. We returned the hospitality of our many Toc H and other friends with a guest night and entertainment on the Friday

evening. On Sunday, after a communion service in the lounge, the wheels rolled again: our week was over.

We believe, though, that this was a beginning, not an end. Some of the friends who shared our week will remain in touch. Friendships were built up. Ideas for future local and wider events were discussed, including personal holiday schemes.

Our warmest thanks to all those across the Region who helped. Special thanks to the seemingly tireless volunteers and to our coach driver and his wife for whom no trouble was too great. Most of all, we thank our disabled friends who, besides sharing their coughs and colds with us, gave us part of themselves. Since David started the week, let him finish: 'My warmest thanks to Toc H for arranging everything so splendidly and for their kindness and consideration. Thank goodness I was wrong this time!'



Photo: The Guardian

Mrs Emily Bench, aged 97, enjoys strawberries and cream at a party arranged for people who could remember three royal jubilees. Mrs Bench is a member of a club

for the disabled, run fortnightly by Mark VII and West Central Women's Branch at the Charlie Ratchford Centre, Chalk Farm, London.

The following branches and groups elected new members during July and early August:

- 12 – Aquarius (Warrington) Group (j)
- 6 – Castle Point (j) Group, Dundee (j) Group
- 4 – Paris (w), Warrington and District Youth Action (j) Group
- 3 – Bideford (w), Criccieth (m), Springfields District, Swansea West (j)
- 2 – Bracknell (j), Chingford (j), Harpenden (j), Mark 7 (j), Southport(j), Stockton (j) Group, Twydall (j)
- 1 – Andover (j), Aylesbury Vale (j) Group, Barrow on Humber (j), Boscombe (m), Burraton (w), Clevedon (j), Fulham (m), Hackney (j), Harlow (j), Hartlepool (w), Hull Action (j) Group, Hunmanby (w), Ipswich (m), Leicester District, Long Eaton (m), Lincoln (j), Luton (w), Northants District, Reigate & Redhill (w), Sandown (j), Swannington (w), Uckfield (w), Wem (j).

A warm welcome to 81 new members.

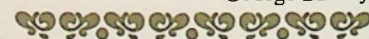
Seen in the Harpenden Branch Newsletter:

Small boy's prayer: 'Do look after yourself, God, because if anything happens to you, we're all sunk.'



'The world is not respectable; it is mortal, tormented, confused, deluded forever; but is shot through with beauty, with love, with glints of courage and laughter; and in these the spirit blooms timidly, and struggles to the light among the thorns.'

George Santayana



MONEY MATTERS

TODAY'S GOOD DEED!

As an individual I was delighted when Mr Healey reduced the standard rate of Income Tax from 35 pence in the £ to 34 pence in the £. This means that as one who pays tax I shall have more in my pocket at the end of the month.

But do you realise how that reduction of tax affects the amount we can claim from the Chancellor of the Exchequer for tax recovered on contributions paid on a Deed of Covenant? For every £1 covenanted we lose two pence

and that means a loss of £300 from members' Deeds and £50 from builders' Deeds.

From a membership of 11,447 we have only 1,882 Deeds of Covenant. I am pleased to say that 120 of these are new Deeds, signed since 1 April this year.

Do you know that if you or your husband is paying tax (and most of us are these days) every time you give your branch treasurer £1, Toc H has lost the opportunity of recovering 52 pence extra for your Region's work – *until you have signed a Deed of Covenant.*

It makes you think – I hope!

If you are one of the 9,565 members who have not yet signed Deeds of Covenant and you are paying tax, please do so as soon as possible so that in this current year we can at least recover the £350 we are losing by the Chancellor's recent tax change.

Better still, if we all carry out Gerry Ashfield's suggestion in the August edition and pay one day's pay to the Family Purse and one day's pay for our branch and *then* sign a Deed, Toc H could finish the current year without a deficit.

George Barnett

IN BRIEF...

■ A Loughborough District member, Oliver Sutton, who joined Toc H 40 years ago and now describes himself as 'almost retired', has sent us a staggering list of what he and one or two others are doing with the aid of an old van. They collect, store and sell newspapers, rags and scrap of all shapes and sizes; they operate an 'odd jobs' service and a chopped wood service (helped by a gift electric saw and free power); they run Christmas parties and take busloads of housebound people on outings. Moneys raised are apportioned among Family Purse and funds for the blind and housebound. Congratulations, Oliver — just reading your letter left us breathless!

■ 'Toc H needs Scotland' is the theme of a Regional Conference to be held at Skelmorlie Hydro Hotel, Skelmorlie, N Ayrshire on 22 and 23 October. The guest speaker is Adrian Dudman. The organisers hope the conference will be the jumping off point for a new growth of the Movement in Scotland. There is ample accommodation and any Toc H member (with or without partner) will be welcome. All applications to Jim Carnduff, 85 Innes Park Road, Skelmorlie, Ayrshire.

■ Woking, Surrey, Ladies' Branch tells us of a happy day spent by the Toc H Blind Club in the beautiful Worplesdon home and gardens of Mr and Mrs Van Swanenburg.

■ The lively Warrington group has set out to collect a million of the pull off rings from drinks cans for which they have a market. Please send any you can collect to Philip Rennett, 20 Mairsfield Avenue, Grappenhall, Warrington, Cheshire.

■ On 26 June, members and friends of Syston, Leicester Joint Branch were present in Leicester Cathedral for the ordination of branch member Stephen Weston. We all join in wishing Stephen well in his new vocation.

■ Congratulations to Barkingside, West Essex, Branch members who have provided seaside holidays for deprived children since 1946. With this year's set, they have now reached a total of nearly 900 children.

■ Holme Valley Joint Branch, W Yorks, raised £115 at a garden party held in the Holmfirth home of Brian Holmshaw, treasurer of the Colsterdale Centre. They are raising the money to provide a Colsterdale holiday for handicapped children.

■ The four Weymouth branches (in Dorset), in appalling weather, raised £220 in this year's Alexandra Rose Day collection (£61 from one collector!).

■ Broadway, Worcs. Branch has been visited by Arthur Blizzard, South Australia's Jobmaster. Arthur told the story of the massive all Australia emergency flashing lights scheme for elderly and housebound people which won for Toc H the Junior Chamber of Commerce Better Community Award in 1973. Reg Wright presented Arthur with one of the flashing lights installed in 44 Broadway homes by local members.

■ Kettering's men's and women's branches (Northants) shared recently in a monster costumed medieval market which formed part of the town's 750th anniversary celebrations. The market was opened by the Mayor and the two Lords of the Manor (whose families had been associated with town and market for 250 and 400 years). The market raised some £2,500 for charity.

■ Kirkley Suffolk, Women's Branch has just celebrated its 21st birthday together with past members and associates. Some 50 people enjoyed the party at which Joyce Beane's splendid cake was cut by a founder member, Mrs M Bennett.

■ The Paris Toc H Branch will welcome any members visiting the city. They meet on the third Friday of each month at 2.30 pm at 5 Rue D'Aguessan, Paris 8me (close to the British Embassy).

■ The new Tower Hill Joint Branch, based on Talbot House, is appealing for complete jigsaw puzzles. The branch plans a puzzle library as the first step towards a regular visiting service for old and lonely people in Tower Hamlets. Address: Peter Wright, Talbot House, 42 Trinity Square, London EC3N 4DN.

■ Brunel Branch (formerly Bristol Action Group) are appealing for Green Shield Stamps. They need 300 books to reach their target. They plan to set up a disco unit to provide regular 'Mini Handis' for a local handicapped group. Contributions please, to Penny Smith, Flat 2, Hill House, 37 Innox Hill Gardens, Frome, Somerset.

■ All Hallows bookstall announce that the new 'All Hallows by the Tower in Colour' will be available shortly. The booklet is priced at 50p. Copies may be ordered by post at 65p from the church bookstall whose address is Byward Street, London EC3.

■ Congratulations to Dorothy Arnold, of Carisbrooke Ladies' Branch, IOW, on being awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal for her service to guiding.

■ Leigh, Lancs, Branch are also asking for Green Shield Stamps to obtain a record player for their splendid, largely self help Toc H community centre. Address: David Lawton, 756 Leigh Road, Leigh, Lancs.

■ After much thought members of Oldham, Lancs, Branch recently celebrated their 46th birthday in unusual style. They collected a party of 19 members, associates and handicapped friends and travelled to Liverpool to visit the residents of Mark 24. They had coffee in the house, a conducted tour and finished the evening with homegoing prayers led by the house chaplain, Rev Lister Tonge.

■ Toc H gained a second place in this year's All Hallows Flower Festival. The theme was 'Jubilee' and the SE Region entered an eye catching display of red, white and blue blooms, incorporating a picture of HM The Queen at Port Penrhyn. Persuasive Cheryl Wood, 'arranger in chief', ensured that the effort was a truly Regional one!

■ Lilian Florance, of Bridgewater, Somerset, writes to point out that obituaries of the actor Edward Chapman record his stage debut in Nottingham in 1924. 'Prior to this, however, he played with the Toc H Drama League in London in 1921 and 1922. In 1922 in "I'll leave it to you", another famous name appears in the programme — that of John Gielgud.' Lilian's brother, George Marlborough, took part in all these productions and, for several years, she herself sang mezzo soprano parts with the London Tic Tocs — a very busy and well known concert party in its day.

■ Reigate and Redhill, Surrey, Branch have made and distributed 18 patchwork blankets and a bedspread made up from wool and materials that poured in after they had placed an advertisement in the local paper. The operation also brought them a new branch member.

■ West Worthing, Sussex, recently supported their local LEPR Committee's unusual exhibition of dolls illustrating British costume from 1420 to 1920. Almost £100 was raised for the LEPR Children's Fund.

YOUR LETTERS

THE FOURTH POINT

There are two types of closed shop. One, the official type, in which a person may not work with others unless he belongs to the same union. As your August editorial rightly stated, Toc H imposes no credal test for new members, and thus cannot be accused of operating an official closed shop. There is, however, a second kind of closed shop, the 'de facto' closed shop, in which, officially anyone may join but yet the position of the person who is not a union member is made difficult and embarrassing. A closed shop tends to be the result, whatever the official policy. I believe that it was the danger of Toc H becoming a de facto closed shop for committed Christians that Ralph Doak was rightly pointing to in his letter in July.

In her article in August, Sue Cumming said 'I think the one thing we need to have in common is that we are all seekers, and hopefully in Toc H we will accept the challenge to consider and try to live out the simple, impossible standards of Jesus the man, and see where it leads us'. In the same vein, 50 years ago Peter Monie, in *Toc H Under Weigh* wrote: 'The door must always be open to those who cannot yet see or believe what some of us do, but who still wish to come in and try our basis out in the only way in which it can be tried out, by trying to live it'.

But the same uncertain seeker who joins Toc H on those terms will soon recognise that we operate a de facto closed shop. His life will be subject to regular embarrassments. He may well be embarrassed when he learns that the official prayer of this movement of seekers is a clearly credal statement. He may be embarrassed when Central Councils re-endorse provocatively credal statements like the Main Resolution. He may well be embarrassed when, as will most certainly happen, other members will assume that, because he is a member, he will automatically participate in corporate prayer.

He may well be baffled when he is sent leaflets like the Michaelmas Day leaflet which says '... we undertake to pray for one another with a better appreciation of the circumstances in which we are working for God's Kingdom in the wills of men'. I could go on...

I, for one, don't believe in a God who uses houses and creates voluntary organisations. I am sure many new members who join to take part in a search are as embarrassed and angry as I am when we are repeatedly put in a position when we either assent to such credal statements or have to opt out. Surely the role of Toc H is to welcome and help the un-

certain seeker — not to make him feel a misfit.

John Mitchell
Ross-on-Wye, Hereford

Thank you for your reassuring editorial in *Point Three* (August). Sometimes when reading *Point Three* some of the opinions and arguments tend to give one the impression that Toc H is becoming just another 'do-gooder' society and is in danger of losing what I believe to be its high calling, ie a family of men and women striving to respond to Christ's commission to go out into all the world and preach (or take) the Gospel to every creature through their acts of kindness, generosity, friendship and fellowship. Also by striving to live their lives in such a way as to set an example to their fellow travellers through this earthly life of the joy of living in close communion with their Creator, thus endeavouring to bring all peoples of whatever race, colour or creed etc to know and love God the Creator through Jesus Christ. As such a family, would not this mean including all those who wish to know, to work with, or to be members of Toc H — but, at the same time, working with God's help to bring those members of the family who wish to change Toc H from a Christian Movement to satisfy their own faiths and beliefs to their own Damascus road?

Winnie Nelson
Headington, Oxford

While I appreciate the dilemma in which Ralph Doak finds himself (letters July), I do feel that he has somehow missed the point. Surely the whole essence of Toc H is that it has a Christian basis. Nevertheless we have never postulated the principle that only committed Christians need apply and we certainly do not demand that members accept implicitly every word printed in the Bible or that they should attend church every Sunday.

Nobody denies the validity of the teachers Ralph mentions and without doubt the lives they led have been a shining example to millions of human beings, past and present. While I doubt very much their followers could join our Movement without renouncing their beliefs, it must be said that the converse equally applies. In the circumstances I cannot therefore agree with the reasoning in Ralph's letter and in any case to water down or compromise our own principles would be worse than having no principles at all, a fact that was emphasised at last year's Central Council meeting.

John R Morgan
Chairman, S E Region

As one who has returned in age to the Anglican Church of my upbringing after acquiring and retaining a strong Quaker tinge from years in that society: who has often worshipped wholeheartedly in Methodist and United Reformed chapels, and profited, I hope, from having good personal friends in the Roman Catholic, Unitarian and Jewish persuasions, may I plead for the retention of an explicitly though not polemically Christian basis to our brotherhood.

Toc H began in Poperinge around a focus of Christian worship, and considering that its founder was a fairly high churchman, its breadth of outlook within the Christian limits has always been admirable. Today we are glad to learn from padres of such different affiliations as Bob Knight and Father Guy Brinkworth, while 20 years ago I had the pleasure of introducing Cheadle Hulme branch to Quakerism. I can't help feeling that somewhere a boundary must be drawn; we are not likely to be infected by the bigotry which Victor Gollancz used to call 'neo-ism', but it seems a pity to strain at the broad Christian tenets maintained by such temperate, fair and cogent apologists as Lord MacLeod, Lord Soper, Dr Nathaniel Micklem and Bishop Stephen Neill.

Our Lord said to the Samaritan woman at Sychar: 'Salvation is of (literally, from) the Jews' (John iv,22), meaning not 'belongs exclusively to' but 'derives and is mediated through', as in the repeated Divine promises to Abraham that his descendants would be a channel of blessing to all nations (Genesis xii,3, xvii,18 etc). Is it outrageous to claim now that salvation is 'from' the Christians, or perhaps better from the whole Judaeo-Christian revelation? Padre Hull has already replied in May to a query from Birmingham which may have been prompted by respect for Buddhism, but so far I have seen no reply to John Gwynne's letter of November last, which stressed points in common between Christianity and Islam but omitted mention of certain deep reaching differences.

I agree with everyone who has written to urge that effective witness lies first in action (what Bunyan's Pilgrim called 'the practick part' in his brush with Mr Talkative) but here and there there will be thoughtful observers who really want to know the motive behind it all.

If moderate and charitable Christian believers are afraid to voice any distinctive tenets, I suspect that the bigots and the militant sceptics will end by dividing the field between them.

Christopher Monro
Eastleigh, Southampton

If we who are Christians in Toc H are true to our faith, we do *not* tell prospective members that they must believe as we do. We try to show them, by the way we speak and act, that we are convinced that we are on to a good thing in accepting the Christian faith. The gospels do contain good news — that anyone can find God who takes the trouble to read what his son Jesus Christ taught about him and act upon it, and that death is not the end of everything, merely a change from one state of being to another.

I am sorry that the statement attributed to Jesus in John 14 v6 is a stumbling block to Ralph Doak (*Point Three*, July 1977). But he really should not take any statement out of its context. Christ was speaking to his closest friends, Jews all of them. It is doubtful if the name of Buddha and his teaching had travelled as far as Israel, and in any event the Jews were certain that the God they worshipped was the only true God, they would not have paid much attention to any other philosophy. Mohammed had not then been born, the gods of the peoples who lived around them were graven images, whose worship was expressly forbidden to the Jews. The gods of Greece and Rome were on the whole a disreputable lot, not likely to help anyone's spiritual progress.

Toc H is surely for those of us who have chosen the Christian way of life, and also for those who want to know about that way, so that they can then decide if it is also the right way for themselves. Religion is not like mathematics, where any sum can have only one right answer. To choose Christianity in preference to other religions is not to state or imply that those other religions are false or wrong, it is to state that Christianity is the way to God for us, and we will gladly share our beliefs with any interested non-believer.

Yvette J Frymann
Nottingham

RHODESIA

It came as a big surprise and shock to read what Yvette Frymann wrote in *Point Three* (June) as *her* true analysis of the problems of Rhodesia.

First of all, it is cheating to claim that she is acquainted with all the implications of the Rhodesian problems after a two week visit. I do not think that I am too far from the truth to guess that it is the one sided bit of the whole story she was told by her friends which she is now trying to preach.

She says that she is convinced that 'the clamour of one man, one vote, is as

wrong as the South African Government's policy of apartheid'. I hereby say that her conviction is as bad as Amin's understanding of the rights of other people to live. However she is right in saying that men are not of equal ability, but I do not think she is right or justified to say that she and her friends are superior to the blacks in Rhodesia.

The few who have had the opportunity of going to the same schools as the 'superior' whites are known to have been capable of learning and mastering just as much if not more than the whites despite the fact that they have to learn a foreign language to use first. The fact remains that the blacks are merely being denied advancement in the same way as other people in the world. If she were a careful observer she would have noticed that the Smith regime introduced two different systems of education for the two races in the country. African parents have to pay for the education of their children, provide money for books, uniforms, food etc whereas the white children are *compelled* to go to school and stay there until the age of 16. Their school fees and educational materials are provided by the Government. The main aim of all this is to deprive and oppress the blacks for as long as possible so that the Government can always use it as an excuse to say that the blacks are not fully educated. Nonetheless you will actually find that there are more fully qualified/educated blacks today in the country than there are whites.

It is in no way an African practice to kill each other, but only of certain insane individuals and their treacherous ways of inciting friends of the same mentality to do likewise. Amin receives the same degree of condemnation as Smith and friends do. Smith claims to be civilised and to practise Western standards and yet he detains, jails and kills those who speak their minds. It would take me pages to go deeper into the politics of Rhodesia and explain the causes of the present conflict. I am however sad to say that her friends in Rhodesia remain the most oppressive, selfish and jealous group of all the people I have ever known.

Jephias T Mavangira
Birmingham

What an incredibly patronising letter from Yvette Frymann (June issue) in which she seems to imply that black Rhodesians should accept a western style capitalist economic system, which has been imposed on them, without a democratically elected government. One cannot deprive a man of a vote in his own country because his educational standard is not equal to that of a white Rhodesian. A

man has a right to choose and must be given that opportunity.

Can one really believe that with the wealth of Rhodesia distance between towns and villages effectively prevents black children from sometimes not receiving basic education?

Let us not talk of tribal warfare as a reason for not giving black Rhodesians the vote when we consider that the artificially created states of Africa cut across existing tribal boundaries thus forming divided nations from the onset of European rule. Internecine war is not peculiar to black Africans. On one point we are agreed, and that is that our system of parliamentary government may be unsuitable for Rhodesia. President Nyerere, the British university educated Tanzanian President has shown how to adapt to the challenges of the modern world and to utilize the traditional skill and culture of his people.

In conclusion let me say that the recent revelation that Mr Smith had no intention of coming to any agreement at Geneva proves that a nucleus of Rhodesians in power at present wish to retain that power and the associated wealth at any cost. South Africa is but a short step away. By all means plead for fairmindedness but let us not forget the first point of the compass.

Peter Clayton
Woking, Surrey

WARDEN REUNION

My wife and I would like to express our appreciation to the committee for arranging the recent Warden Manor reunion week at Alison House. It was a delightful experience to meet old friends in different surroundings and we all seemed to fit in very well. Frank and Wyn Howlett really made us feel at home. I only hope that the Warden crowd didn't disgrace themselves. Over the years we have tended to take the Manor for granted in such a way that rules and regulations have been forgotten. However we enjoyed the freedom that our hosts provided and I'm sure we all look forward to meeting again in the future. Of course the loss of the Manor is still felt, because between them Dor Knap, Alison House and Warden Manor provided their different characteristics which is a good reflection on Toc H itself and any loss in this direction is a loss indeed.

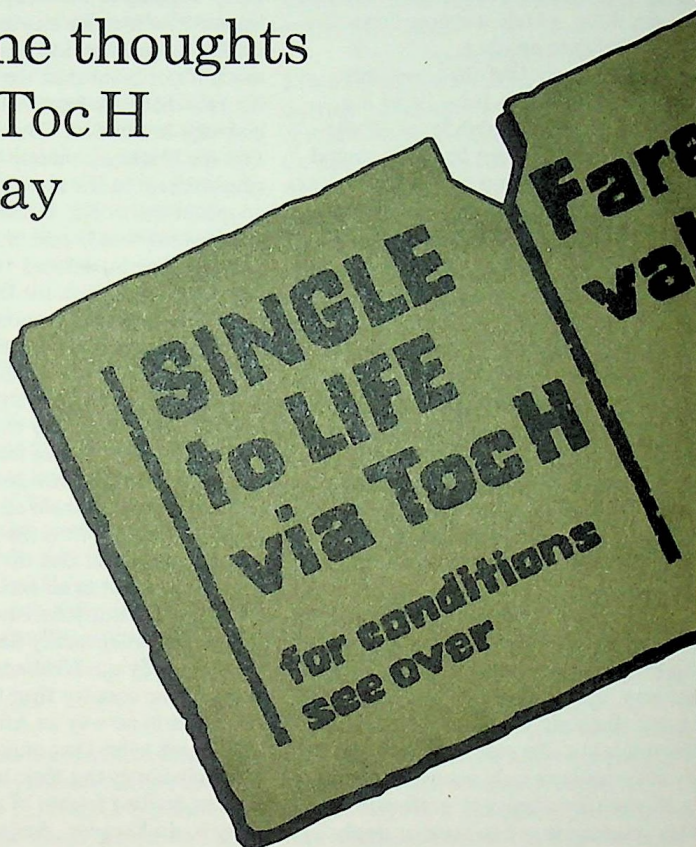
Once again thank you all for a grand week. I hope the August crowd had as good a time as ourselves.

Jim and Lily Curran
Ilford, Essex

This is what you've been waiting for

A ticket for a journey

some thoughts
on Toc H
today



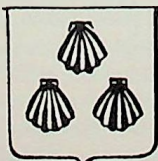
In this book, the Director of Toc H examines the questions we face when we see the Movement as a whole way of living out the Christian life in today's difficult world.

A Ticket for a Journey will be available at Central Council. From 7 November, you can order copies from Toc H, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks HP22 6BT. The price will be 50p a copy plus postage (at 15p for a single copy, 50p for four or more copies).

by Ken Prideaux-Brune

SMALL ADS

Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) five weeks before publication day, which is the 23rd of the preceding month. The charge is 3p a word (minimum 30p) to Point Three magazine. Rates of display advertisements can be obtained from the Editorial Office, Toc H, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks. Telephone: 0296 623911



Bruges, Belgium. Hotel Jacobs (established 50 years) welcomes Toc H parties and individual visitors to this lovely old city within easy reach of other famous cities of art, and of the coast. Comfortable, modernised hotel. Quiet situation. Parking. English spoken. Strongly recommended. Bed and breakfast only. Mr Jules Lietaert, Hotel Jacobs, Baliestraat 1, Bruges 8000. Telephone: (050) 398 31/32.

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